

THE ANTIQUARY.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23rd, 1871.ON AN INCISED SEPULCHRAL SLAB
AT LITTLE HORSTED, SUSSEX.

IN the churchyard at Little Horsted, or Horsted Parva, as it is sometimes called, about six miles north-east of Lewes, are the fragments of an incised grave-slab of the early part of the sixteenth century, which, when perfect, must have formed a good specimen of this kind of memorial. It was found when the church was restored, or rather rebuilt, about nine years since, through the liberality of Francis Barchard, Esq., of Horsted Place. The fragments had been built promiscuously into the wall of the vestry, and those who had originally constructed or repaired that wall had evidently treated the slab with entire disregard. Fortunately all the pieces into which it had been broken were built in the wall, so that the whole of the slab was recovered, but some pieces are so worn away and disfigured that the complete design can only be ascertained by supplying what is lost from the corresponding and decypherable portions of the memorial.

When found, the slab was in four pieces, but it appears to have been further broken, as the fragments are now seven in number. They are placed on the north side of the churchyard, being arranged as near as possible in their proper relative positions. When unbroken the size of this slab seems to have been about 4 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 6 in.

A short time since, I made some rubbings of those portions of the slab where the incised lines are legible, and in some parts very distinct. Round the edge of the slab runs the inscription in black letter characters, of which more presently. The space thus enclosed is occupied by a cross on three steps. The two horizontal and the upper vertical limbs terminate in *fleur de lys*, while at the lower point of the head, adjoining the stem, is a thick globular band. In the centre of the head there was probably some kind of ornamentation; it is possible that this space contained the sacred monogram *I. H. S.*, but the stone here is quite worn away. Above and below the horizontal arms of the cross are quatrefoils, four in number, within which it appears that the names of the four evangelists were inserted. The word *Mathe'*, a contraction for *Matheus*, is very distinct within one of the lower quatrefoils. Finally, on each side of the stem are scrolls, one bearing the words, Junior, and the other *fieri fecit*. The word before Junior is broken away; perhaps the name *Delve* should here be prefixed.

A great portion of the border inscription is easily read, and the date as well as the surname of the person whom the slab commemorates has fortunately been preserved. The letters are large, being 2½ in. long, and are deeply cut into the stone. The inscription, commencing at the upper sinister corner of the slab, may be read as follows, the

words within brackets being supplied from the usual formulae in similar instances:—

[*Hic jacet Maria*] *Delve* vx[or]e Ricardi *Delve* que [obiit] x^{to} [die mensis] decem' a^o d[omi]ni m^o] cccc^o [cuius aie ppiet' deus Ame.]

Here may be said a word as to the *exact* date of this slab. Fortunately, the reading cccc^o is unquestionable, but the numerals, if any, that followed have been broken away. Mr. M. A. Lower, the Sussex antiquary, considers that the date reads 1502. I cannot myself see any data for ascertaining the *exact* year in which the wife of Richard Delve died, but in researches of this kind a few years' uncertainty is really unimportant, and hardly worth the risk of hazarding conjectures. What we know for certain is that this slab belongs to the early part of the sixteenth century.

Then again, as to the *exact* day of the month: one of the fractures passes just before the x of the x^{to}, so that it must remain doubtful whether the day was the 15th or the 25th.

I have also one word to say concerning the suggested Christian name of the wife of Richard Delve. When I examined the stone I considered both the upper fragments to be illegible, but, having doubts on one or two points, I communicated with the rector of the parish, and was, in consequence, favoured with the sight of a sketch of the slab. On this sketch I found it stated that on that part of the slab where the name should be, the faint and worn incisions looked like Maria. As the drawing was probably made soon after the discovery of the slab, when the letters may have been more distinct, and the stone not in such a crumbling condition as it was when I saw it, I gladly adopted that name in the full reading of the inscription previously given. Although the various fragments into which this slab has been broken are in some degree protected from the weather by other pieces of stone being placed over them, still their exposure to heavy rains and frosts necessarily tends to make still further illegible those portions of the inscription which, when found, were already in a very mutilated and foggy state.

I have been unable to find any clue as to the ancestors of Richard Delve or of his wife. The slab being of a date prior to the establishment of parish registers, there is but little chance of ascertaining anything respecting the person it commemorates beyond what we find cut on the stone itself. Had it been a burial later in the century, the registers might have given us some information, since they are in a perfect condition, dating from 1540. Further, I have been informed that the name Delve does not occur in these registers, so that none of that family seem to have been subsequently connected with the parish.

Sept. 14, 1871.

E. H. W. DUNKIN.

PROFESSOR ERNEST CURTIUS, the historian of Greece, and the late tutor of the Crown Prince of Prussia, will set out in a few days on an archaeological expedition to Troy and Jerusalem. The Professor will be accompanied by Major Regely, and the well known architect, Adler, and enjoys the protection of a gunboat especially placed at his disposal.

The model (by Noble) of the proposed statue to Oliver Cromwell, recently placed in front of Palace Yard, has been removed. The statue will be erected in Manchester.

ANTIQUITIES OF WESSEX.

II.

AVEBURY and Silbury, with scores of barrows all around, belong to Marlborough Downs; here, with evidences of a ruder age, and a more reserved, secluded, and mystic life than at Amesbury, we find huge stones, that metal never shaped, deposited naturally when the ground was soft, transported by water or dropped by ice.

It is a peculiarity of the neighbourhood, as at Carnac, "the place of stones" in Brittany—an open quarry field of disjointed stone. Here and there, in the at one time open Downs, they lie thinly scattered; but at other places the rushing waters have collected them by thousands into a narrow gully, or heaped them up on the rise of an opposing barrier, down which some few have toppled over to the other side.

Approaching Avebury from Marlborough we find on the right side of the road-way, at Clatford Bottom, an overthrown cromlech called the Devil's den; it stands at the entrance of a valley of stones collected in the hollow towards Linchett's, thence they rise by Fifield, and are found again on the left hand of the roadway, scattered along the Lockridge towards Alton—locally called "large stones," "grey-wethers," sarsens; this last word appears to mean saracens: "stony-hearted" pagans. The word is known in the Channel Islands. At Avebury these local collections have been systematised; the stones are exceptionally large, with indications of a circular arrangement; but this effect is manifestly aided by the circumstance of the place having been entrenched for habitation; it is, in fact, an enormous enclosure with mound and ditch, the whole of which may still be traced along their entire course.

Avebury was "discovered," so to speak, by John Aubrey, a gossiping diarist of the seventeenth century; these names are convertible, since Avebury is pronounced as A'bury in the neighbourhood; in this sense it is obviously a form of *Auld-bury* [old]. But here is a dried-up source of the river Kennett, so it is just possible that an older name may be Avon-bury, Celtic *afir* = river. Old Aubrey, a gentleman of the Court of Charles II., so interested the King in the matter, that his "discovery" made a sensation. It is on record that he counted sixty-three stones in 1648; but Stukeley, a credulous clergyman, found only twenty-nine standing in 1743; yet, from this obvious destruction of thirty-four in the interval of a century, he argued a previous destruction of hundreds; and depicted an imaginary temple with upwards of 600 stones symmetrically grouped. That Stukeley was credulous is shown by the hoax successfully played on him by Prof. Bertram, of Copenhagen, who imposed on him a forged itinerary, said to be by Richard of Cirencester; it was sent to Stukeley for publication in England, and the bait was greedily swallowed.

Now I count the remains of twenty-five only; the destruction has been effected for farming and building purposes; it is easily done by means of fire and water, without blunting the chisels; the stones are in the way, and the profits of sight-seeing do not pay for their preservation.

Silbury I think more recent; the name is probably from the A.S. adjective *sel*, and it means the "best" barrow; it is the very biggest known in England. I do not think it was there when the Roman road, from Cunetio to Aqua Solis [Bath], that runs so very close to it, was constructed; but that it is certainly posterior.

The river Kennett runs on to Marlborough, near where was *Cunetio*, the names are obviously identical, the prefix being the Celtic *Cun*, leader or chief, as in *Cun-obelinus*, the British Cymbeline. Before the Romans formed their station here, the Britons had a lofty *dune*, still standing north of the river, in full view of the Marlborough white

horse. *Cunetio* lay low, east of Marlborough, at the village of Mildenhall; but they must also have had a "look out" south of the river, for Roman pottery is found at folly-farm; "folly" being a form of the Latin word *vallum*.

There is another *cromlech* near Marlborough laid down in the ordnance survey, number 34, as at Temple farm, Rockley, but it has disappeared; it was destroyed about six years since, as I was informed, by the tenant farmer who rents the estate. Here in the name of Rock-ley [field], we have a recurrence of the native peculiarity of the place, for this particular field, called Temple bottom, where the cromlech formerly stood, is still heaped with large boulders; it forms an offshoot of Stukeley's, so-called, "snake's head avenue" to Hack-pen, but its natural character is clear at a glance. I fancy that the name "Temple" it is, that has misled him and Aubrey; for here was, in Henry III.'s day, a preceptory of the Knights'-Templars; and the name thus bequeathed by Christians has been ante-dated to Pagan times.

Topographical books note the existence of a *menhir* at Broom Manor, about one mile south of Old Swindon, which has disappeared for several years; the site is still indicated by the name of "long-stone field," applied to a large tract of arable and pasture land. Here are still immense numbers of the same kind of boulder-stones, scattered about the demesne, which is an ancient monastic foundation; but there is no appearance of cromlech or circle.

This district must, indeed, at one time, have been a veritable *Trachonitis*.

A. H.

Sept. 16, 1871.

SUSSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS.*

THE 23rd annual volume of these Collections bears testimony to the indefatigable diligence, literary ability, and scientific knowledge of the members of the Society by which it is published. The immense personal inconvenience and exertion to which the various writers have manifestly subjected themselves, prove that their self-imposed task is a labour of love. Without further preface we will briefly describe the nature of some of the articles.

The first is a description, in an archaeological point of view, of the village of Racton. It consists principally of a genealogy of Colonel Gounter, who figured conspicuously in the escape of Prince Charles, afterwards Charles II. Some particulars respecting that event are also given. It appears that the family of Gounter came over at the Conquest, and is still in existence. Accompanying this article is an engraving representing the punch-bowl presented to Mr. and Mrs. Symons by the king. Its capacity is, apparently, by no means inconsiderable.

"On the Domestic Habits and Mode of Life of a Sussex Gentleman in the 17th and early part of the 18th Century," by the Rev. E. Turner, consists of extracts from the diary of this gentleman, and gives us a good idea of the condition of the community—local, at any rate—at that time. It is remarkable that the spelling has all been modernised, or else the gentleman in question was acquainted with the purest 19th century orthography, and used a very modern contraction for Brightelmstone.

"The Sussex Election Poll Book of 1734," by Hugh Wyatt, Esq., LL.D., is printed *in extenso*, and will be interesting to those who wish to know the political opinions of their ancestors.

"On a Vessel found near Glynde," by the Rev. W. de St. Croix, Hon. Sec., is a description, with an engraving, of a small cup or vase found near some graves which have

* "Sussex Archaeological Collections, relating to the History and Antiquities of the County," published by the Sussex Archaeological Society. Vol. 23. Sussex. George P. Bacon, High-street, Lewes.

been discovered at the chalk pit near the Glynde railway station. It is supposed to belong to the very earliest Anglo-Saxon period, or the very latest Romano-British.

"Hastings Documents," by T. Ross, Esq., is a long article, interesting to archæologists. The most interesting article to the general reader, is one entitled "Chimney Back of Sussex Iron," by S. Evershed, Esq., which we quote at some length. This chimney back is at present in the Pavilion Museum, Brighton. The article is accompanied by a capital engraving, also by the contributor.

"This chimney back is one of the finest specimens of art, as applied to iron decoration, which has heretofore been discovered in Sussex. It measures 3 ft. 4 in. in height, by 2 ft. 7½ in. in width. It was sold twenty years ago by Mr. Stuberfield, a blacksmith, at West Grinstead, to a Mr. Harwood, with a quantity of old iron, and subsequently to Mr. Steele, of Lewes, who . . . was unwilling that it should be broken up at the foundry, as many a fine chimney back has already been."

In short, by his instrumentality it was installed in the Pavilion.

"Speaking of the subjects of our chimney backs generally, they appear to have been, for the most part, either sacred, mythological, or heraldic; though I have seen in West Sussex very fine specimens covered entirely with fruit and flowers. The central device of the subject of our present article is the rape of Europa; and surely no mythological subject was ever before set in a more absurdly funny manner. The anachronisms it displays are beyond the reach of caricature. Jove appears as a gay cavalier of the reign of Charles I., with a felt hat on his head, adorned with an ostrich plume, a huge Carolian collar, a velvet mantle, braided trunk hose, points, boots of the period, spurs, and heavy riding gloves. Europa is walking off leaning on the gentleman's arm. In her head gear she has ostrich feathers also. She wears a gown of velvet, covered with a luxurious cloak, and the train is borne by a tiny boy in jerkin and puffed breeches. On her arm she carries a large oval reticule. A male attendant walks behind her, who, like the page, is bare headed, and has long ringlets. Over the head of the fair lady he holds an umbrella of a very primitive construction. Just behind the principal figures is a groom with a scull-cap on his head, and having the hereditary "horsey" type of countenance, holding a fine horse with a flowing mane. The horse is represented as curving his neck, and pawing the ground as if impatient to be off. Whether the horse carries a pillion for the use of the lady, behind the saddle on which the gentleman is to ride, it is impossible to say, as his body does not appear. He is issuing from between the pillars of a stately portico of the Doric style of architecture, and the fore-part of him is all that is seen. How Jupiter and Europa were to be accommodated on one horse is left for the imagination to fill up. Jove in his gallantry, had, doubtless, pre-arranged all this. Truly prudent then was it of the artist to inscribe on the ground, in front of the heroine, and at her feet, the word *Europa*, for who could otherwise have for a moment supposed that a classic story was hereby intended to be set forth. And yet the designer was, notwithstanding, an artist, for there is much dignity displayed in the bold Cavalier, and much Titian-like grace in Dame Europa. The bordering of fruit and flowers, masks and scroll work, is in the usual style of the early part of the 17th century. There is a fragment, apparently by the same hand, in the Castle Museum, at Lewes. The composition in the case before us is surmounted by a couple of dolphins of a somewhat spirited design. . . . I have no doubt that this chimney plate was cast at the iron works belonging to Charles I., which were destroyed by the Parliamentary forces about the year 1643. These were situate on St. Leonard's Forest, near Horsham.

This interesting article concludes with an anecdote, which relates that the late Prince Albert once purchased an old

chimney back which had been cast in Sussex, and, finding it after he got to Windsor, too small for the chimney in which he intended to place it, he himself designed the outer border, and a drawing of both the ancient back and the modern border may be seen in one of the portfolios at Windsor.

An article on "Brasses in Sussex Churches," is from the pen of the Rev. E. Turner, M.A., Maresfield. No less than eighty Sussex churches are described in this article, giving some idea of the pains-taking assiduity shown in its preparation, and leading to the inference that Sussex is tolerably rich in these ancient memorials. The following is the description of "the most beautiful of all our Sussex monumental brasses," in the nave of Cowfold Church:—

"Upon a slab, 9 ft. 10 in. in length, and 4 ft. 8 in. in width, are the effigies of Thomas Nelond, Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, who died May 14, 1433. He is habited as a Cluniac monk, and is standing under a tabernacle of Gothic work, on the top of which, in the centre, is a figure of the Virgin and Child. The Virgin Mother has a coronet on her head. On the right, mounted on a pinnacle, is the figure of St. Pancras, the patron saint of his house, trampling on a warrior, with a drawn sword in his right hand, and a book in his left; and on a similar elevation to the left is St. Thomas-a-Becket, of Canterbury. He is clad in a mitre, and in his pontifical habit. His right hand is raised in a preaching attitude and holds a scroll, and in his left he holds a crozier. Over St. Pancras, on the dexter side, is an escutcheon, on which is a description of the Trinity; on the sinister is the matrix of another escutcheon, the brass of which is gone. Nelond's hands are clasped upon his breast, and from them, as a centre, issue three labels, on which are inscribed, in Monkish-Latin verses, two supplications to the 'Holy Mother of God,' and one to 'Holy Thomas.'"

Another article on "Wall Paintings in All Saints' Church, Hastings," by Thomas Ross, Esq., will be read with considerable interest by archæologists, from the fact that the very best of these paintings is of such excellence that Mr. Ross and the editor differ as to what it is intended to represent, the former supposing it to be the Last Judgment, and the latter the casting of Satan out of Heaven. Another picture is believed to represent some naval scene connected with the Armada, but we merely refer to it as an instance of the annoyance which an enthusiastic archæologist must make up his mind to endure. Mr. Ross intended to have this picture copied, and had taken the necessary measures with that end in view, when, on paying a preliminary visit, he found that the gallant ships had all sunk in a sea of whitewash, and "only the mast was visible." The workmen, whether in remorse or derision, is not very clear, had scribbled the word "ships" on the scene of the disaster with a piece of charcoal, perhaps that the inquirer might not lose the pleasure of viewing the spot where the object of his search had been.

In the "Notes and Queries" department, Mr. S. Evershed asks for any information respecting Roman roads or remains in the county, being desirous of preparing a history of "Roman Sussex." The Rev. W. de St. Croix calls attention to a fact which may prove of considerable importance. He states that the stone spear heads, arrow heads, knives, and saws, which have recently been found in South Africa, bear a very remarkable resemblance to those which have frequently been discovered in Sussex and other parts of England. This gentleman also sends a report, written by Mr. Dudeney, of Milton House, Lewes, on the leaden coffin discovered last March at Wellingham, and now placed in the Museum, at Lewes.

EARL RUSSELL has accepted the presidency of the Historical Society of Great Britain, vacant by the death of the late Mr. Grote. His lordship will deliver an inaugural address to the members in March next.

SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

[Secretaries of Archaeological and Antiquarian Societies throughout the Kingdom will confer a favour by forwarding to the Editor of this Journal all Notices and Reports of Meetings, and also their Periodical Publications.]

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first paper read at the evening meeting at Weymouth, on Thursday, the 31st ultimo, was by Augustus Goldsmid, Esq., F.S.A., "On the Municipal Institutions of Hungary and Transylvania, and their Parallels in this Country."

Apologising for his subject not being in any way local, the lecturer proceeded to enlarge upon the municipal institutions of Hungary and Transylvania, which, he contended, were in many important respects analogous to our own. In the countries he had mentioned there was shown to be a greater resemblance to, our constitutional and municipal institutions than to those of any other European nation. He gave a short geographical outline of the situation and peculiarities of those countries, and also of the characteristics of the inhabitants. Previous to the year 1848, he showed that the Hungarian county and municipal regulations were very similar to those of early English times, there being Lords Spiritual and Commons. The peers were hereditary like ours, with but this exception—that all the sons of peers, lord lieutenants, and bishops were allowed a seat. The Commons were elected by open voting, and although, as in this country, bribery was not recognised, still treating was resorted to *ad libitum* and distinctive colours worn. Throughout the land there were fortress churches, or castles of refuge, for the protection of men and cattle during the incursions of the Turks. The language, customs, and dress of the people were treated upon, and, in conclusion, Mr. Goldsmid expressed a wish that Hungary might become better known and understood in England.

The paper was productive of a short discussion, after which Mr. Gordon M. Hills, in the absence of Mr. J. W. Grover, read a paper "On Roman Christians in Britain; Evidences at Frampton, Devonshire."

Professor Buckman then gave his lecture "On the Flint Implements and Weapons of Dorset." He commenced by observing that he had been a resident in the county of Dorset for eight years, and during that time scarcely a day had passed in which he had not found two or three flints, which at first puzzled him, as when he came to Dorset people had very slightly considered the matter of flints. Although they had observed a quantity of flints in every direction, they did not know that they had been manufactured by man's hands, but thought the marks on them had been caused by accident. He, however, should show that a great number of flints picked up in Dorset had been most elaborately worked, and that they belonged to a period when flint did as much for the people as iron and steel did in the present day. His farm was situated between Yeovil and Sherborne, on the inferior olite formation, and not covered with any flint-drift at all. All the flints he had with him had been picked up on his farm, and he must say that some of them had not found their way there by accident; but it was not a locality where geologists would recognise a flint-drift. It was curious, he remarked, that flints were scarcely understood or recognised at all, until "Flint Jack" showed people how easily flint instruments could be made. This set people thinking, and they came to the conclusion that they must have been made by people long before "Flint Jack" could imitate them. The specimens which he had to show were of great age, and their colour would prove that they could not have been made in modern times. He did not believe in the idea that many of them were formerly gun flints, as they had not the facets and sharp edges of gun flints. At Lyme Regis he once

came upon a mass of flint implements in every process of manufacture, showing that in all probability it was a place where they had been made. At Peddlerentide he had inspected a flint which from its marks showed must have been struck off at some very remote period. Although the specimens he had with him were very rough, he thought if further search were made others would be found in a most perfect condition, like those in Wiltshire. At one time he felt disappointed at not finding a manufactured battle-axe, or perfect arrow-head, and the conclusion he arrived at, therefore, was that the specimens found on his farm were of a much earlier period than before arrow-heads or celts were made. He, however, afterwards found some curious specimens, which proved to be portions of celts. These had a very sharp edge indeed, and bore evidence of having been carefully polished, and used for various purposes. Although he had no large celt in his possession, he had pieces showing that they were manufactured and scattered all over the country just like other flints. Two arrow-heads he had were very beautifully formed indeed—one being a barbed arrow and the other of a leaf pattern. He had never yet seen any arrow-heads ground down or polished; they appeared only to have been chipped. Some of these must have taken days to have made them in the delicate manner in which he now saw them. He had also found another set of flint implements, known as "scrapers," flat pieces of flint with a point, which was supposed to have been used for the purpose of scraping the dirt off animals' backs and preparing the hides for garments. These were found in proportion of ten to one of any other truly recognised form, and were of two or three types. He then called attention to a very curious set of implements remarkable for having a notch at the side, which in all probability was for the purpose of being tied to a stick, as the notch was always on the same side. He thought these were used as small arrows for delicate work, such as fine arrow-heads. Another set consisted of "flakes," which appeared to be pieces stripped off from larger flints. These, he thought, were used as knives, for they had sharp edges, and some seemed as if serrated, so as to form saws. The next objects he had to show were some round stones, probably used as sling-stones. In conclusion, Professor Buckman said he had only endeavoured to show some few objects which a few years ago were hardly considered as belonging to archaeology at all; but which, he believed, the more they were looked into, the more curious would they be found. But they must be content for the present to collect more specimens before they could see what each country would produce, then classify them in different collections, and he was sure something very curious would be the result. He was sure, if the Congress would do him the honour of examining his flints, they would get rid of the idea that every little piece of flint they might pick up was not shaped by accident, but that the roughest of them could not have got into its form without handicraft.

On Friday, a numerous party met at the railway station, where, by a special train they proceeded to Dorchester, from whence they drove in carriages to Piddletown, a village about five miles distant. At the village the church and its noble monuments were explained by J. R. Planché, Esq., of the *Somerset Herald*. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a noble structure, having an embattled tower partly in the decorated and later English styles. The church contains a series of monuments, there being several effigies of the Marten family. There are also a number of altar tombs and crosses which formed objects of great interest and curiosity.

After the church had been thoroughly investigated the party proceeded to the Manor-house of Athelhampton, said to be one of the most ancient residences in the county, where they had the privilege afforded them of inspecting it, through the kindness of Mrs. Wood, the present occupier. The peculiarities of the mansion were ably explained by Edward Roberts, Esq., F.S.A.

Piddletown was again reached, to enable the company to partake of luncheon at the village inn. After more than an hour's rest the party again took carriage for the purpose of visiting the Roman camp of Chilborne St. Andrew, locally known as Weatherbury Castle, which may be described as an oblong double entrenched camp. After the principal points connected with the place had been discussed, the party proceeded to Bere Regis, where the church formed an interesting object for examination, the peculiarities of which were ably described by the vicar, the Rev. F. Warre. This edifice is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is of rather large size, and of very ancient architecture. The roof, which is of carved oak, is a prominent object of beauty, and is said so have been placed there by Cardinal Morton, who also founded a chantry in the church. The edifice contains the remains of some canopied tombs of Purbeck marble, belonging to the Tuberville family, the ancient lords of the manor, and others.

On the return homewards a halt was made at another ancient mansion, Woodsforde Castle, now a farm-house, occupied by Mr. Atkinson.

In the evening the following papers were read:—J. R. Planché, Esq., "On the Family of Robert Fitzgerald, the Domesday Tenant of Corfe;" Edward Levein, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., "On Wareham and its Religious Houses;" and W. H. Black, Esq., F.S.A., "On Wareham, and the Earliest Historic Monuments in Dorset."

On Saturday the excursion to Wareham and Corfe Castle was very numerously attended, the special train being filled with ladies and gentlemen. The train first stopped at Binden Abbey, the ruins of which were closely examined. This abbey is of the Cistercian Order, and was founded in 1172. The history and architecture of the place was described by G. M. Hills, Esq.

The company then re-entered the train, and proceeded to Wareham, where they were met by Freeland Filliter, Esq., who acted as *cicerone*. The chief features of interest in the town are the earthwork fortifications, the church of St. Mary, and the ruins of St. Martin's. The church of St. Mary is, with the exception of Sherborne and Wimborne, the oldest in the county. It contains several beautiful monuments, and a chapel in the south aisle is said to have been the burial place of the Anglo-Saxon kings, whilst here was interred the remains of Edward the Martyr, who was murdered at Corfe Castle. After visiting the churches the parties proceeded to the residence of Mr. Petre and examined a collection of curiosities found in the clay pits near the town. Then followed luncheon at the Corn Exchange. There were few toasts. Mr. Levein, in proposing the health of the president, said that he had attended many congresses, but never one where a president had been so assiduous as Sir William Medlicott. The compliment was duly acknowledged.

The afternoon was devoted to the examination of Corfe Castle. The time at which the castle was built is uncertain, but most probably the foundations were laid in the reign of Edgar. The castle must at one time have been one of the most magnificent fortresses in the country. The architecture and history were explained by Thomas Blashill, Esq., and T. Bond, Esq.

The party returned to Weymouth about seven, and at the evening meeting papers were read by Joseph Stevens, Esq., on "Newly Discovered Roman and Saxon Remains at Tinkerley, near Andover," and by H. Godwin, Esq., on "The Bishops of the West Saxons, more particularly those of the diocese of Sherborne."

The Congress was brought to a close after the usual votes of thanks to the president and secretaries.

SOMERSET ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE annual meeting of this society has just been held at Crewkerne under signally propitious auspices. The presence

of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord A. Hervey, as well as the fact of the weather being all that could be desired, lent considerable *eclat* to the proceedings. There was a full attendance at the inaugural meeting at the Town Hall, where the president, E. A. Freeman, Esq., D.C.L., took the chair, amongst those present being the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Mrs. Freeman, Mr. F. H. Dickinson, and Mrs. Dickinson, Mr. W. A. Jones, Mr. M. Bere (Recorder of Bristol), Prebendary Scarth, Canon Meade, Mr. G. Bullock, Mr. G. B. Troyte-Bullock, Revs. H. D. Wickham, Newell, Stubbs, Edwards, Voulss, J. Hancock, Colonel Pinney, Rev. Mr. Ellicomb, General Mumbee, Dr. and Mrs. and Miss Penny, Prebendary Fagan, Prebendary Coles, Mr. Warren, Mr. W. Bond, Prebendary Bond, Mr. H. Hoskins, Mr. Sparks, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Harris, Mr. Colfox, Mr. J. M. Allen, Mr. Woodford, Mr. Parsons, Peters, Mrs. Parsons, &c.

After some routine business, Mr. Freeman proceeded to deliver his inaugural address.

He commenced by observing that their society was a society for the study of certain branches of scientific research. But it was also a local society. Its sphere was not the whole world nor the whole isle of Britain, but the one shire of Somerset. They lived in a shire which really had a history. The shire of the Sumorsætas, like the other West Saxon shires, was not a mere artificial division—it was a district with a being of its own—a substantive part of the West Saxon people. There were other shires in which, in later times, at least a greater number of the leading events of English history took place. But save the shires of Kent, the first English possession, and of Hampshire, the first West Saxon possession, no part of the land had a greater share in the work of turning Britain into England. Glancing over the early history of Britain, he observed that the Roman city of Bath, the King's town of Somerton, the Abbot's town of Glastonbury. Taunton springing into being as a border-fortress of the English against the Briton, Dunster rising at the foot of a fortress reared by the Norman to crush the Englishman; Bridgewater keeping in its corrupted name the memory of its personal founder—all these and a crowd of others had each their tale to tell. Wells and Bridgewater again, the heads of two great classes of ecclesiastical foundation, suggested the vast stores which were open in the ecclesiastical buildings of the county. But ecclesiastical dwellings were not the only form of architecture in which Somersetshire was especially rich. Their ancient domestic dwellings, their manor-houses, and their parsonages, chiefly of the 15th and 16th centuries, were among the buildings which were least understood and the least valued. The wanton havoc which had been made in the one city of Wells was enough to make one tremble for the buildings which had still been spared. Mr. Freeman next referred to the abundant supply of stone in Somerset for building purposes, observing that among their rich quarries a wooden church was something which seemed as strange as a stone church was among the thick woods and chalky soils of Essex. And as with churches so with houses. Whilst in a large part of England the houses were largely of wood, in Somerset and in Northamptonshire for the same reason stone was freely used. The mention of houses naturally brought them to consider those who lived in them, and they were thus brought to the subject of family history and genealogy. Nothing could be more repulsive than the study of genealogy and heraldry as they are commonly studied; but the fact that from the 12th century onwards men did make their shields with certain devices, which became hereditary in their families, was worthy of attention, as enabling them to fix the dates of buildings, and to obtain other points of historical detail. A knowledge of the customs of various ages giving exactly the same help, like heraldry, like the knowledge of prevailing customs in any age, rightly took its place among the secondary branches of historical study. Nothing could be

duller than a pedigree, as they commonly saw it in a county history, with the mythical generations at one end, and the obscure generations at the other. But family history could have life wreathed into it, as well as any other subject. The mere list of names, the extravagant names, surnames, and titles used at various stages, the causes of their adoption, and the various forms which they took, all formed contributions to the study of nomenclature, and even to the direct study of history, and the real records of a family, whenever they could get at them, their manner of life, their correspondence, their private quarrels, their lawsuits, their wills and inventories, all combine to throw a light on social and legal history, on the way in which men lived, and thought, and acted, which could hardly be thrown upon it by any other means. The slightest notice of local feelings and local customs never came amiss. It was something when they read in the life of the first Earl of Shaftesbury a letter addressed to his illustrious friend Locke, in which he says, "Somersetshire, no doubt, will perfect your breeding—after France or Oxford, you could not go to a more proper place. My wife finds you profit much there, for you have recovered your skill in Cheddar cheese, and for a demonstration have sent us one of the best we have seen." Then came a sentence from his lordship. "Thus recommending you to the protection of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, whose strong beer is the only spiritual thing any Somersetshire gentleman knows." It were heresy to doubt, that "zider" was known and valued in these parts for ages, before the times of Shaftesbury. Were they then to suppose that the Palace ale, in the time of Bishop Peter Mews, was of such special strength and goodness as to drown in the minds of the gentlemen of Somerset, not only the thoughts of things spiritual, but the very memory of their native drink?

The President concluded with an eloquent review of some of the grand memories of the wooded hill of Montacute, and concluded a deeply-interesting address amid much applause.

The Bishop, who had only a few minutes to spare, said he would devote them to thanking their president for the extremely able, interesting, and eloquent address, which he had just delivered. It was rather tantalising sometimes to those whose reading was less extensive than others to see what an enormous mass of instruction, interest, and pleasure, there could be derived by those whose minds were stored with an extensive stock of information. But though they felt they had lived somewhat unprofitably in having derived only a small amount of information they ought not to feel discouraged, but rather to take comfort that a well-stored mind could convey much pleasure to others. He could not but be struck with the observation that the great centre interest of all these subjects was, their relation to man. The subject of greatest interest was man himself, from the close relationship in which he stood to his Creator, who had endowed him intellectually, morally, and spiritually. Certainly it offered a magnificent view to them if they carried their thoughts back to the time when the prescient mind of the Creator was preparing the earth for man; and rock, and sea, and sky were being formed to make man what he had shown himself capable to be. It certainly did throw a most interesting view on the subject when they saw there was a relation between the battles and conflicts of history with the series of geological revolutions which have formed the earth. He had now only to thank their president for the great pleasure he had afforded them all by his excellent address.

The Rev. Mr. Ellicomb next read an exhaustive paper on bells and their marks. He had explored 475 churches in Devonshire, and gone into the towers of all except two, the keys of which had been carried off by the parsons. It occurred to him that Somerset (which had no diocesan kalendar) should be taken in hand, and he addressed a large number of letters to incumbents, from many of whom he got answers, from some thanks and offers of hospitality. Then he "tipped" the clerks, and for the remainder consulted the

churchwardens, who all gave him information readily. He thought he had got information of the contents of nearly every tower. He congratulated them on possessing two celebrated post-Reformation bell founders, one living at Chewstoke, the other at Clossworth. He exhibited casts of bells founded by Robert Semson.

PENDOMER CHURCH.

Mr. Bond read a paper on the figure in Pendomer Church, which he said he had satisfactorily found to be a representation of Sir Jno. de Dummer, who flourished in the reigns of the 1st and 2nd Edwards, and was a knight of the shire for Somerset, and was paid for attendance in Parliament. He added some interesting particulars connected with Sir Jno., and created special interest by referring to the actual purchase of a wife by one of his connections.

There was a discussion on the signification of the figures of animals at the feet of the recumbent figures on tombs. Preb. Scarth had been informed of a custom in the Isle of Man to place a dog at the foot of such figures. He was inclined to regard it as springing from a heathen custom.

The President.—That was a much more heathen custom—that of selling a wife. I never before heard of a wife being treated as a villain in gross.

One gentleman was inclined to think the dog was connected with some monkish practice. Throwing dust on a coffin was one of them.

Another gentleman observed that in some parts of Ireland they always placed a coin in the mouth of the deceased to pay for "carrying him across."

The President, in closing the discussion, referred the members to Tyler's History of Primitive Culture, where they would find the whole thing worked out.

WELLS CATHEDRAL STATUTES.

Mr. F. H. Dickinson informed the meeting that whilst examining some books in the Lambeth Palace Library he discovered a copy of the ancient statutes of Wells Cathedral. They consisted of about 104 pages, rather more than half of which were occupied by a code, very similar to the "*De officiis ecclesiasticus tractatus* of Salisbury." The remainder contained very nearly the same matter as the Harlein MS. 1682, the contents of which were given in Dugdale. He had had access to all the MSS. at Wells, in the possession of the Chapter Clerk, but could not find the original. As therefore they seemed to exist complete in no other than the Lambeth copy he suggested the advisability of printing them in the Proceedings of the Society. Referring to one of the rules relating to the colours of vestments, which they were now told were to be worn, he found that on Saints' days the colour worn by the priest was to be red; on Christmas Day, white; and through Advent, blue.

SOMERSETSHIRE RECORDS.

The above paper was followed up by one from Mr. Serel on this subject, and an expression as to the desirability of obtaining a calendar, or index, of each repository where they were to be found. The speaker referred to a mass of documents, 1000 in number, which were accidentally discovered to be in the possession of the Chapter Clerk of Wells. Mr. Dickinson inspected the contents of the box, communicated with Sir Thomas Hardy, and the result was that Mr. Riley, the assistant commissioner, was deputed to examine, and report upon them. Amongst these were several Pope's Bulls, and Saxon Deeds, Charters, including several grants by William de Crokehorn (Crewkerne), Abbot of Muchelney, and an order to assess money (100*l.*) on Wells, made at a Council of War, held at Crewkerne (9th April, 1644), in the presence of Prince Maurice, Lord Paulett, and others. Mr. Serel suggested that the society should take some steps to preserve these papers.

CREWKERNE CHURCH.

The party next proceeded to the church, the architectural features of which were explained by Mr. Freeman. He said it was one of those great cross churches of which there were so many in Somerset. The west front was the best thing about the whole church, and well worth studying. In many cases there was no attempt to make an artistic finish, but the nave here was finished by turrets, to which the ends of the aisle roof were joined with great care. He compared it with Yatton, where, however, the window had a clumsy mullion. Both inside and out the President called attention to the great difference between the work of the chancel and that of the nave, the latter being higher and better, showing, he thought, that in the 16th century the district was rich, and the parishes seem to have outshone the ecclesiastics who did the work of the chancel. A large niche at the south-east corner of the church gave rise to much speculation.

Mr. J. C. Buckley stated his opinion that it was a pulpit for preaching to the people in the market. The president thought it a great outside niche which would not serve the purposes of a pulpit at all. Some one suggested that it was intended for a statue.

In the church the disproportion between nave and chancel and the richness of the former were more apparent, and Mr. Freeman observed that the nave was a striking and singular composition. The height was very great, and there was an extraordinary width in the pier arches which were but three, and might have been four or even five.

Attention was called to the figures of two pigs, with a shield before them, and to the figures of two angels.

Mr. W. Sparks said the tradition was that they went in pigs and came out angels.

The company then adjourned to "The George," where a capital dinner was provided. In the evening there was a meeting for the reading of papers.

Wednesday was given up to an excursion, the attendance being more than usually numerous. The party first visited Montacute House, the seat of the Phelps family. The mansion is in the Elizabethan style of architecture, and is in an excellent state of preservation. The hall and other rooms were examined. The paintings are very fine—the principal ones being portraits of the family.

A move was then made to Montacute Church, which has recently been restored. The president described the building, and also referred to the history of Montacute. He pointed out the hill where the Holy Cross was found, which was offered to the Monasteries of Glastonbury and Athelney, but declined, and which afterwards was fixed at Waltham. The Holy Cross of Waltham became the war cry of the ancient Britons. The hill was now covered with timber, but formerly it was bare. The Priory was founded by Earl William, son of Earl Robert, brother of the Conqueror. Mr. Freeman said that the tower of the church was very elegant in its workmanship, and the work singularly graceful. It belonged to that class which was found at both ends of the country—about Bristol, and in the neighbourhood of Crewkerne. The old Norman arch dividing the nave and chancel stands, and is in excellent preservation. The church is one possessing many features of interest, and the members occupied some time in examining the antiquarian relics.

The remains of Montacute Priory were then inspected. It now forms the Manor-house—a farm-house, and the only noteworthy part of it is the ceiling over the entrance.

The church of Stoke-sub-Hamdon, one of the most interesting churches in the country, was next visited. Mr. Freeman said that it was a simple church, but every stone of it was worthy of study. It contained specimens of all the styles of architecture which prevailed from the 12th to the 15th century, and showed that, though additions were made, the church had never been rebuilt. There were several interesting specimens of Norman moulding, particularly the

chancel arch, which is one of the most beautiful specimens in the country. There are two windows on both sides of the chancel, and their object led to some discussion. Mr. Buckley thought that they were fixed in that position in order that the light from the high altar might fall upon the graves in the churchyard. He referred to the practice now existing in Brittany, where such windows were inserted. The altar lights were invariably kept burning, and these acted as beacons for travellers. He instanced a case in point in his own experience.

A move was then made to Ham-hill, where Roman and ancient British remains have been found. The Rev. Mr. Scarth explained the construction of the fortifications of the hill and the ramparts, and gave it as his opinion that a Roman camp had been formed there to protect the main road leading from Seaton to the northern parts of England. This was confirmed by the fact that an amphitheatre existed just outside the camp, and which was used, no doubt, for the gladiatorial games common in those days. Mr. Scarth stated that the hill was inhabited long before the Romans. One of the largest querns or hand-mills he had ever seen was found upon the hill, as well as a chariot-wheel belonging to the Romans, who undoubtedly occupied it. Mr. Scarth referred to the destruction of the camp at Bower Walls, opposite Clifton-down, on the Somersetshire side of the river Avon. A building committee had taken it, and had annihilated the centre camp. He asked them why they did it, and they replied that it was because the material was so valuable. If those historical associations had been preserved, it would have rendered the houses in the neighbourhood doubly attractive. He wished that the attention of the leading men belonging to that company could be drawn to the circumstance, so as to induce them to preserve these relics of the early inhabitants of Britain. Mr. Scarth also stated that the quarrying for the Ham-hill stone was destroying the face of the ramparts, and in a few years it would be doubted whether there had been any ramparts there at all. He hoped that the Prince of Wales would give instructions that the most interesting part of the hill should be preserved for the information of posterity. Every trace of Roman occupation would be gone in a few years if a stop were not put to the quarrying.

Luncheon was taken at Norton-sub-Hamdon, the church of which was also inspected. It is a noble pile, of one uniform style, and was restored in 1862. Mr. Buckley drew attention to the singular circumstance that the whole of the upper lights in the windows were filled with female saints, among them being St. Catherine of Alexandria and St. Barbara. He thought that it was worthy the attention of the Archaeological Society to ascertain the names of the other saints.

Wigborough farm-house, an old residence containing several good rooms with elaborate ceilings, was next visited, after which the excursionists journeyed to Hinton-house, the seat of the Poulett family, but now occupied by Lord Westbury. The rooms were thrown open, and the members examined the various paintings and curiosities with great interest. Lord Westbury was present, and conducted the society through the rooms, explaining the objects most worthy of notice. At the invitation of his lordship the society took tea. A paper was read by Mr. H. W. Hoskins, which had been written by the Hon. Miss Bethel, upon the Poulett family, with especial reference to Sir Amias Poulett, who lived in the time of Elizabeth, and who was the gaoler of Mary Queen of Scots at Fotheringay. The President tendered the thanks of the society to Lord Westbury and to Miss Bethel, which his lordship acknowledged.

Hinton and Merriott churches were then inspected, and the company returned to Crewkerne.

An evening meeting was held at the Town-hall, when more papers were read—by Mr. Morris, upon a leaden heart-case found at Merriott; by Mr. Dickinson, upon the boundaries; and by Mr. Jones, upon Wigborough.

On Thursday, the party visited Odcombe, and thence to Brympton, to the residence of Lady Georgina Fane, which formed an interesting object of study, and was minutely inspected by the archaeologists. After taking some light refreshment at her ladyship's, the party drove to West Coker, and thence to East Coker, where they were hospitably entertained by Mr. W. H. Helyar. A vote of thanks to the donor of the feast was proposed by the President and passed unanimously, and the archaeologists were again jogging on their way to Pendomer, at which place the only object of interest was a monument. Here the proceedings were brought to a close by votes of thanks to the President, and to Mr. Jones, the hon. secretary.

Thus finished one of the most successful and largely-attended meetings the society has ever had.

WILTSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

THE committee of the above Society, having in view the recent congress of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland at Cardiff, within easy reach of this county, and the more recent gatherings of the Archaeological Association of Great Britain in the still nearer county of Dorset, have exercised a wise discretion in abandoning their intentions to hold a general meeting this year. The more zealous archaeologists of Wiltshire, must, therefore, curb their antiquarian impatience for another twelve months, for it is not without prudence that the officers of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society shrink from surfeiting their members with too large a dose of antiquities; and, after their successful and largely-attended gatherings of late years, decline to run any risk of summoning an assembly of the members to which they might, perhaps, respond with less than their usual ardour.

THE AZTECS' CALENDAR STONE.

THE American Minister to Mexico has forwarded Governor Baker, of Indiana, a valuable and curious contribution to the State library, in the shape of a model of the calendar stone of the Aztecs, the discovery of which shows how accurately those ancient people of Mexico measured the lapse of time. Mr. Nelson says the calendar stone was discovered on December 17, 1790, not far from the centre of the principal square, and directly in front of the entrance to the palace. It was lying flat, with its sculptured side downward, and the upper part only 18 inches from the level of the ground. By order of the viceroy, and at the request of the authorities of the cathedral, it was delivered to them, on condition of being placed in some position easily accessible to the public.

The material of the calendar stone is an exceedingly hard basalt, found only at a great distance from the city of Mexico. It is 11 feet 8 inches in diameter, and about 2 feet 6 inches in thickness. The Aztec civil year consisted of eighteen months of twenty-five days each, to which were added five complementary days that were not considered as belonging to any month, and were regarded as unlucky by the Aztecs. At the expiration of each cycle of fifty-two years, twelve days and a half were interpolated to compensate for the six hours annually lost. The conclusion of each cycle was a memorable event in Aztec annals. The perpetual fires in the temples and all the fires in the private dwellings were extinguished; they destroyed much property, and literally "clothed themselves in sackcloth and ashes." At midnight of the first day of the new cycle imposing religious ceremonies were celebrated by the people *en masse*, including the sacrifice of human victims, and the lighting of a new fire by friction from a wooden shield placed on the breast of a victim. This fire was then communicated to torches borne by thousands of runners who conveyed it to the remotest settlements of the Aztec empire.

Mr. Gallatin draws from the detailed examination of the hieroglyphics the following conclusion:—"We find, there-

fore, delineated on this stone all the dates of the principal positions of the sun, and it thus appears that the Aztecs had ascertained with considerable precision the respective days of the two passages of the sun by the zenith of Mexico, of the two equinoxes, and of the summer and winter solstices. They had, therefore, six different means of ascertaining and verifying the length of the solar year, by counting the number of days elapsed till the sun returned to each of these six points: the two solstices, the two equinoxes, and the two passages by the zenith."

A DRUIDS' TEMPLE.

A CORRESPONDENT calls attention to a Druidical temple at Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire, which is not generally known. The Temple, and most of the country round it, are the property of the Harcourts of Swinton. It is situated about three miles from Swinton, one mile from Leighton, and four miles from Masham. The roads to it are exceedingly rough and hilly, and it is difficult to get very near it in a conveyance of any kind. The plantation is rather more than a mile round, and the approach to the Temple was evidently on the north-west side of the hill, for at intervals, beginning from that side, single stones of an enormous size, supported by smaller stones, appeared to be landmarks directing to it.

At some distance from the front of the Temple are three immense stones, with one stone at the top, forming a sort of gateway. The following is a rough measurement of the Temple:—Round the walls outside, 132 yards; round the walls inside, 62 yards; round the dining-hall inside, 22 yards; round the walls of the inner chamber inside, 14 yards. Just in front of the entrance stands a column composed of large stones piled one on the top of another. The outside walls are composed of enormous single stones, with steps round the outside supporting them. Inside the Temple are a huge block, probably for sacrifice; a column; an altar beneath an oak at the end opposite the entrance; there are six recesses, formed by two gigantic stones, with one at the top; on each side six single stones, near the walls; four large blocks of stone, two on each side, stood near the centre. Leading out of the Temple is a dining-hall, with a long stone table and four stone seats at each side of it. Leading out of this again is an inner chamber, covered over, containing eight stone seats. On the top of this inner chamber large stones are piled and oak trees are growing. Farther on, beyond these trees, stands a single large stone with many small holes bored in the top of it, supported by smaller stones. Farther on still stands a gigantic column, about 30 feet high, composed of sixteen large stones; round this column is a double circle of twelve stones.

Everything is in the highest state of perfection and preservation—the stones do not appear to have been even moved from their places.

STEPNEY CHURCH.—For many years past the condition of the exterior of the venerable Church of St. Dunstan's, Stepney, has pointed to the necessity for systematic and extensive restoration; and, at the instance of the Rev. J. Bardsley, the present rector, a restoration fund has been established, which has already reached upwards of 2000*l*. The work has accordingly been commenced, great care being taken to avoid injuring the objects of archaeological interest with which the building abounds. Stepney Church occupies the site of one of the earliest of the Christian churches erected in this country; the present structure is believed to have been erected about the reign of Henry VI. or Edward IV. Matthew Paris says that Stepney Church was re-built by St. Dunstan in the year 952, and the old chronicle records that the church which Dunstan replaced was dedicated to All Saints, and that the new church which St. Dunstan erected was, after that holy monk's death and canonisation, re-dedicated to him; hence its present name of St. Dunstan's—a title which it has borne for more than 900 years.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor will be glad to receive Correspondence on Archaeological matters, and information of discoveries of antiquities, accompanied with drawings of objects, when of sufficient interest, for illustration.]

"A PICKLE FOR THE KNOWING ONES."

By TIMOTHY DEXTER.

To the Editor of "THE ANTIQUARY."

THE author of this very singular little book bearing the above title, was born (as stated "by a distinguished citizen of Ould Newbery,") at Malden, January 22, 1747. After serving an apprenticeship to the leather trade he commenced business for himself at the age of twenty-one, in Newburyport, in which he prospered. In 1770 he took to himself a wife who possessed a moderate fortune, six years later he took into his establishment the eccentric and noted Jonathan Plumer, jun., who afterwards distinguished himself as a "travelling preacher, physician, and poet." In addition to old Timothy's regular business of selling leather breeches, &c., he engaged in commercial speculations, and was unusually successful, especially in selling *whalebone* and *warming-pans*, which enabled him to live in style, taking the title of Lord Dexter, because he said it was "the voice of the People at Large." He died October 26, 1806, at his own residence, in his sixtieth year. A word about his book may be amusing. There appears to have been, at the end of last century, many heresies and schisms abroad in the land regarding punctuation, and as many systems appeared for the location of commas, semicolons, periods, &c., as there were works published (see Cyclop. of Literary Anecdote, by W. Keddie, p. 287.) To obviate this difficulty, and to give every reader an opportunity of suiting himself, his lordship left out all marks of punctuation from his book, but added a page at the end of nothing but stops and pauses, with which he said the reader could pepper and salt his dish as he chose. At the end of the 4 Ed., 1848, is an extract from the Providence Phoenix, of December, 1804, "Marquis of Newburyport" (as he was sometimes called). "On Monday last arrived in this town the most noble and illustrious Lord TIMOTHY DEXTER, of Newburyport, Massachusetts, who has, since his arrival, requested the publication of the following stanzas in this day's paper, as a humble tribute to the incomprehensible majesty of his name. While they serve as a brilliant specimen of the gifted talents and admirable sublimity of the Laureat, from whose pen they flowed, the virtuoso in genealogies, and the worshippers of noble rank and boundless fortune may derive a rich and delicious satisfaction from the subject to which they are devoted!"

"ADVERTISEMENT EXTRA OF THE CELEBRATED LORD DEXTER.—The first verse will suffice:—

"Lord Dexter is a man of fame,
Most celebrated is his name;
More precious far than gold that's pure,
Lord Dexter live for evermore."

Waltham Abbey.

W. WINTERS.

To the Editor of "THE ANTIQUARY."

SIR,—The copper coin described by General C. Fox, in your last number, does not appear to be unique, although there seems to be much uncertainty as to its origin. I have before me a coin or token, which is probably of the same kind as that given to General Fox. It came into the possession of my father about thirty-five years ago, and is in good condition, but rather more worn on the reverse than on the obverse. On the reverse, in the centre, are traces of a plain shield, which the general does not notice, around which is the legend *NON-PLUS-ULTRA. In the general's letter the second word—PLUS—was printed PIVS, but this I conceive to be merely a typographical mistake.

A friend of mine, who is well versed in numismatics, is inclined to consider this coin as the trial-piece of some apprentice, a few copies of which have, by some means or other, been issued. I shall be happy to send General Fox a rubbing of it if he will furnish me with his address.*

I am, Sir, yours truly,

E. H. W. DUNKIN.

14, Kidbrooke Park Road, Blackheath.

Sept. 20, 1871.

THE "KEYS" OF THAMES STREET, LONDON.

To the Editor of "THE ANTIQUARY."

THAMES STREET is a place of considerable trade on account of its convenient situation near the river. A Key is a term used in commerce to denote a bank raised perpendicular from the water, or a wharf made use of for shipping and unloading goods. A few of these Keys run as follows:—*"Brewer's-Key, Chester's-Key, Galley-Key, Wooldock, Custom House-Key, Porter's-Key, Bear's-Key, Sub's-Key, Wiggan's-Key, Young's-Key, Rafe's-Key, Dice-Key, Botoolph's-Key, Hamon's-Key, Smart's-Key, Somer's-Key, Lion's-Key, Gaunt's-Key, Cock's-Key, &c."* Some of these may have assumed another name.

Waltham Abbey.

W. WINTERS.

To the Editor of "THE ANTIQUARY."

SIR,—I should be obliged to any of your readers could they inform me the dates of the birth and death of John Louis Roulet, a famous engraver of the 17th century, also whether there is any work published giving the dates (with or without any account of their lives) of the births and deaths of engravers.

Yours respectfully,

J. H. D.

Sept. 14, 1871.

To the Editor of "THE ANTIQUARY."

"It is remarkable," says an old writer, "that in digging the foundation of the new church (in 1497), St. Mary-at-Hill, in London, the corpse of Alice Hackney, who died *cir.* 1322, was discovered in a very rotten coffin, and that the skin was sound and flexible, and the joints pliable, though buried about 175 years. The body was kept above ground three or four days without any noisome smell, but then beginning to be tainted, was again laid in the ground. This church was partly destroyed by the great fire in 1666, but everything combustible in it was consumed."

Waltham Abbey.

W. WINTERS.

SCOTLAND.

DR. ANGUS SMITH, of Manchester, who has been exploring in a large moss on the shores of Loch Etive for a few weeks back, has discovered the remains of a lake dwelling, the platform of which is 60 ft. in diameter, with the dwelling in the middle 50 ft. in length, by 28 ft. in breadth. He also discovered in a large cairn a megalithic structure, consisting of two chambers, each 20 ft. in length connected by a narrow passage nearly as long. The Rev. R. J. Malleton, of Dumbarton, who, along with several others, has visited the remains, believes no other cairn like it has been as yet discovered in Scotland. It allies itself, he thinks, more to that of New Grange, in Ireland, than any other, although it is much smaller. One broken urn and the remains of four others were also discovered.—*Scotsman.*

* The address of General C. Fox is 1, Addison Road, Kensington, W. It should have appeared at the foot of his communication.

PROVINCIAL.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THE ABBEY RUINS.—We hear that the Most Hon. the Marquis of Bristol is about to take steps to preserve the principal portion of the Abbey Ruins—viz., the Abbot's Parlour—by enclosing it with an iron railing. Antiquarians will be grateful to the noble marquis for his efforts to preserve this interesting ruin from the destruction with which it was threatened by the ravages of children rather than those of time. With the protection proposed there appears no reason why the parlour should not remain one of the glories of the town for an indefinite period. During the excavations for the alterations in the vicinity of the churchyard the workmen have come upon the remains of the south boundary wall of the monastery, a part which it was necessary to remove. The wall appears to have been demolished as far as the ground-line, leaving the foundation of the part below the surface intact, with the exception of the removal of most of the carved stonework.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—During some excavations which are being made on the site on the Old Magpie public house in this town, the workmen came upon some Norman basements at a depth of between five and six feet, which were, in all probability, the remains of St. Margaret's Gate. There were, likewise, some portions of flint foundation, which is intimately associated with the Abbey wall, flint being its characteristic, and is of immense strength. St. Margaret's Gate was the southern entrance to the monastery, and was taken down in the year 1760. It is peculiar to note how the accumulation of ages has raised the surface of the soil both here and at the Great Gate of the Church of St. Edmunds, or the Norman Tower, as it is now called. For centuries the ground in its vicinity has been used for the purpose of interments, and the surface has now risen about five feet. "Dust to dust."

CAMBRIDGE.

ANCIENT MANUSCRIPT.—In the second report, just issued, of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, we read:—"Among the records preserved at Clare College (formerly Clare Hall), Cambridge, its ancient minute book or register, claims especial notice. Information as to the early history of the College is to be derived from it that has probably been lost sight of for centuries, throwing light more especially upon the munificent provision made for its Chapel by the foundress, and the history of some of its early masters and benefactors. The collection of Letters, carefully preserved by the College, is interesting, those of Tillotson, while still a Fellow of this College, and at a later date, occurring in considerable numbers. Among the other writers are to be found the names of Margaret, Duchess of Newcastle; Saunderson, Bishop of Lincoln; Pearson, Bishop of Chester; Hinchman, Bishop of London; and Moore, Bishop of Norwich. There is a letter of Robert Lover to Mr. Blythe, afterwards Master, descriptive of the ravages of the plague in Cambridge, in 1665. The College Order Book contains many entries indicative of the state of political feeling in Cambridge at the beginning of the last century. At Gonville and Caius College is preserved that MS. History of the College written by Dr. Caius, its third Founder. The oldest *Computus* or Bursars' Account-book of this College now in existence, begins in 1423, and contains matters of antiquarian and topographical interest.

LAYER MARNEY, ESSEX.

FEW Essex churches of such small dimensions as the Parish Church of Layer Marney—especially when considered in

connection with the fine old Tower (as it is called) near by, which originally formed the gateway or principal entrance to the family mansion of the Lords de Marney—can boast of so much attraction for the antiquary. This church has lately been restored in a most praiseworthy manner, and a bazaar has been recently held and made to clear off the remainder of the debt incurred in effecting the improvements, and also to make a further restoration of the nave. It consists of opening into a western tower, a chancel with a fine carved wooden screen across the point of division, instead of the usual arch, and a north aisle, extending along both nave and chancel. This opened formerly into the nave by two arches—now built up—and into the chancel by a single archway, in which is built a fine monument of terra-cotta, consisting of a canopy over, and a base under an effigy of one of the Marneys. There is also a fine carved wooden screen between the east and west parts of the aisle, similar to that dividing the nave and chancel. In the centre of the chancel formerly stood a square effigy tomb of alabaster, but this has now been removed to the centre of the north aisle, and together with the remains of two other tombs in the aisle present a picturesque effect unusual in Essex churches. This aisle also has a flat roof—a massive panelled and moulded beam ceiling of oak. It is a curious and notable feature that at the west end of the aisle is a room fitted with an enormous fireplace. A similar fireplace is situated at the east end of the aisle, and it has now been restored and made available for warming that part of the church. Altogether, the church and tower would well repay a visit from any of our readers if ever they should be travelling anywhere in this vicinity, and if any should do so perhaps, among others, they will peruse the following inscription:—

"Here rests Nicholas Corsellis, Esq., who is not lost but gone before, having exchanged this life for a better, A.D. 1674, 19 day of October, aged 70."

"Artem typographi miratam Belicus Anglis,
Corsellis docuit, regis prece munere victus
Hic fuit extremis mercator cognit us Indis,
Incola jam coelis, virtus sua fama vivet."

Here is evidently a reference to the introduction to the art of printing, but as the date mentioned is 200 years later than the time when printing was first practised in England, it must have been one of his ancestors, and the honour is evidently claimed for the name, not this individual himself. The tale runs thus—"Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, a prelate of considerable learning, persuaded Henry VI. to despatch Robert Townmour, an officer of his household, privately to Haarlem, where a printing press had been set up, to make himself secretly master of the invention. Townmour persuaded Frederick Corselli, one of the Dutch compositors, after much delay, to carry off a set of letters, and fly with them in the night for London. Corselli consented, and on arriving in England was set to work by the Archbishop of Oxford, where a guard was placed over him to prevent his escape. Printing was here practised by Corselli before a press was set up at Westminster." Probably this printer was the founder of the Corselli family who was located here and at Wyvenhoe for about 200 years. Layer Marney is about seven miles from Colchester.

HULL.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HULL.—This, one of the largest and most ancient parish churches in England, is undergoing an entire external restoration. Some time since the workmen employed at the west end of the fabric, beneath one of the windows in the nave on the south side, near the vicar's porch, discovered a fine monumental arch, it had been bricked up and plastered, and beautiful remains of some mutilated sculpture. On each side of the arch are carvings of three ancient ships; on the east side of the

monument is a figure of a priest, on a bracket, in the act of praying, and looking upwards to the centre of the arch, fixed to which is a crucifix, it being held by a figure, coarsely carved in comparison to a smaller one of the Saviour, which is a beautiful work of art. The faces of all are defaced or destroyed. There are portions of a dove. The larger figure represents the Father, the crucifix the Son, and the remains of the dove, Holy Ghost. The gilding on the figures and colouring when first found was bright; the flesh-tints on the Saviour were very natural. Rumours were rife as to whose honour this ancient monument has been erected. Several old local benefactors were mentioned. Mr. J. Symons, M.R.S.A., of that town, ventured to express an opinion that the arch was the remains of a chapel or chantry, because he noticed the remains of a doorway adjacent, through what is now called the "vicar's porch," but also bricked up. The subject remained dormant for a time, but thanks to the Surtees Society, Mr. Symons found a clue to the founder. The above society have recently published the diary of the old Yorkshire antiquary, Abraham de la Pryme. Mr. Pryme, writing to the Rev. R. Banks, vicar of the church, in February, 1702, says, "But as for Bishop Alcock, the most learned and pious man of his time, I have somewhat further observable of him. Bishop Goodwin, and from him others, says that he was born at Beverley, which seems not at all probable to me, first, because that his ancestors, Wm. Alcock, Thomas Alcock, sheriff in 1468 and mayor in 1478, and Robert Alcock, the bishop's father, who was sheriff in 1471 and mayor in 1480, were all of them famous merchants of this town, and lived here; secondly, because that old records of the town positively say that he was the son of the aforesaid Robert Alcock, mayor; thirdly, because that when he founded the great free school in the town of Hull, he founded it upon his own lands that had descended to him from his grandfather, William Alcock, merchant, of the same place, being a great garden, fifty-five royal ells in length, which he had bought of John Grimsby, merchant, in 1432, and fourthly, because that it was most commonly the custom of those days to build the chantries and chapels and schools and such like in the towns where they were born." Mr. Symons quotes local records which set aside the old antiquarian's notions; they say that this very Dr. Alcock was first Bishop of Rochester, and then of Winchester, in 1476. While he sat there in 1484 he founded and built a little chapel upon the south side of St. Trinity Church in Hull, joining upon the great porch, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, erecting two altars therein, the one to Christ and the other to St. John the Evangelist, and fixed a perpetual chanter to chant psalms and prayers every day to the souls of King Edward IV., his own parents, and for all Christian souls. About fourteen years after this, before his death, and at the request of Alderman Dalton, who had married one of his sisters, he founded a great free school adjoining, and is there to this day. Consequently there cannot be a doubt that this monumental arch is the remains of Bishop Alcock's chapel, who was born at Beverley, that town being only nine miles from Hull, and where his parents might have been temporarily residing.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.

CHURCH restorations are very frequent in these days, and we take the opportunity which presents itself on such occasions of bringing any provincial churches of note under the attention of our readers. The object of this notice—East Harling Parish Church—is now undergoing a restoration of the spire and roof, and reseating, at a cost of about 1500*l*. Mr. J. H. Brown, of Norwich, being the architect. It is situated about twenty-one miles south-west from Norwich. The exact date of its erection is apparently not known, but it is calculated that it was built between the years 1435 and 1462. The style of architecture is, however, Gothic, and the

church contains a chancel, nave, and aisle; a chapel north of the chancel, and south porch, and a beautiful western tower. It also contains two fine canopied tombs, one of the date of 1462, to the re-founder, Sir Wm. Chamberlin and his wife, in the north wall of the chancel; the other is in a chantry chapel at the east end of the south aisle, and consists of a rich high tomb, which supports two fine recumbent effigies of Sir Robert Harlyng, who departed this life in 1435, and his wife. Above them rests a beautiful ogee canopy, doubly feathered, with heraldic badges in the mouldings, cusps, &c. The nave is covered by an open roof, of very high pitch for its date, and of the gayest beauty. There is a splendid coloured glass window in the east of the church, which represents twenty different illustrations from Scripture.

ROCHESTER.

THE work of restoring the cathedral under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Scott, is proceeding with good speed. The decayed clerestory windows of the nave are now being restored. The earth has been removed around the east end of the building to ascertain if the foundations are in a proper state, and it has been found that they are quite safe. Scaffolding is being erected at the east end for the restoration of that part of the edifice, which is now in a lamentable condition; much of the stonework is broken or decayed, and in many places, at some former time, the stonework was patched in the most hideous manner. In several parts of the cathedral ancient windows were blocked up with stone, and in other cases former "restorations"—if such a word can be used in connection with the work—consisted of making windows, &c., not consistent with the original character of the building. If the cathedral is now to be thoroughly restored by Mr. Scott it will involve a very large outlay and a vast amount of work. It is understood that the Dean and Chapter have large funds in hand applicable to this purpose.

THE BLACK LETTER PRAYER BOOK OF 1636.—Mr. Sanders, assistant keeper of public records, gives in his annual report an account of his superintending for the Ritual Commissioners the photozincographic *fac-simile* of the Black Letter Prayer Book of 1636, with the manuscript notes and alterations made in 1661, from which was fairly written the Prayer Book subscribed by the Convocations, and annexed to the Act of Uniformity. Mr. Sanders thinks the Black Letter Book will be found to differ from the "Sealed Books" throughout in punctuation and the employment of capitals; and as it is evident, by the alterations made by them in this respect, that the Commissioners appointed to examine the Sealed Books with the original manuscript copy attached great importance to punctuation, the inference appears to Mr. Sanders to be that the MS. copy is not a true copy of the Black Letter Book, at any rate as to punctuation and capitals. In spelling the Sealed Books differ from the Black Letter Book throughout. The revisions made in the Black Letter Book are not always consistent. Passages intended to correspond with one another contain differences of expression; a MS. rubric directs the priest so to order the wine that he may with the more readiness take the cup into his "hands;" but when this act is to be done a MS. rubric directs him to take the cup into his "hand." The Gospels and Epistles, being ordered to be "all corrected after the last translation," differ greatly from those in the Black Letter Book. Sufficient unto the the day is the travell thereof," is, in the modern version, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof;" in the 68th Psalm, "Praise him in his name, yea, and rejoice before him," is now changed to "Praise him in his name, Jah, and rejoice before him;" in the Sealed Book, however, the original reading is preserved. The Black Letter Book has been returned to the Library of the House of Lords.

MISCELLANEA.

AN accidental discovery, of great importance to lovers of the fine arts, has just been made at Zurich. Professor Vogeli, while engaged in examining the public library there, found a table-top painted by the celebrated Holbein, a piece of work which has long been believed to have been lost.

LONGEVITY.—On the 2nd inst., Mr. Robert Harvey, of Felthorpe, Norfolk, attained the good old age of 100 years. He had never been more than sixteen miles from his native place, Ashwelthorpe.

THE first part of the Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archaeology will be ready early in the spring, containing articles by Dr. Birch, J. W. Bosanquet, M. Ganneau, Prof. Lowne, Lieut. Prideaux, Messrs. G. Smith, and H. Fox Talbot.

IN Ceylon, the Government Archaeological Committee, accompanied by a photographer, have been successfully exploring Sigiri and Anaradjapoor. At Sigiri, life-size paintings have been found at a height of nearly two hundred feet. The colours are so rich and well preserved, that it is difficult to understand how the pictures of kings and queens can have been so long overlooked.

A VACATION rambler who has just visited Stonehenge, after a lapse of thirty years, writes to express his sorrow at the demolition which has been effected by the hand of man. There were many visitors whilst he was there, and a constant chipping of stone broke the solitude of the place. He suggests that some means may be taken to preserve the most remarkable monument of antiquity in this island.

WINDERMERE.—The east window of the ancient parish church of St. Martin, Bowness, Windermere, has recently been restored by Messrs. Ward & Hughes, of London, under the supervision of the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, C. Watson, Esq. The window is famous for containing portions of the ancient stained glass window formerly belonging to Furness Abbey.

ADDITIONS TO THE PAINTED HALL AT GREENWICH HOSPITAL.—An admirable portrait of the late Admiral Sir Edward Parry, who held the office of Governor of Greenwich Hospital, has just been presented by the relict of the deceased, and placed in the Painted Hall of the above establishment. It is hung at the extreme end of "The Nelson Room," and has been inspected by many who sailed under the gallant admiral and those to whom he was personally known, and is deemed a very accurate portrait, having been painted at an early part of his life. Another addition will soon be made to the number of pictures exhibited in this hall, by the hanging of the portrait of the late Admiral James Ross, which was on view at the late Royal Academicians' Exhibition, having been specially painted for presentation to Greenwich Hospital.

THE Liverpool Fine Art Exhibition is now open. It contains nearly 1000 works of various kinds, the greater portion of which have been already seen in London. The Exhibition will continue open during the present and the following month.

THE LATE MR. GROTE.—A bust of this celebrated historian is to be placed in Poets'-corner, Westminster Abbey. The commission has been entrusted to Mr. Charles Bacon.

IN consequence of a great fire at Vathi, in Samos, the large collection of antiquities formed by Mr. Marks, the English Consul, during many years, has been destroyed.

CAPUAN VASES.—The British Museum has just effected an important purchase of twelve vases found recently at Capua. These are all of them finely-preserved examples of a rare and beautiful class—generally assigned to an epoch a little lower than that of Alexander, and distinguished by large size and supreme and subtly varied elegance of form. They are principally *amphora* and *crateres*, without figure designs, but with their bodies painted black, and fluted in the manner which indicates an intention of imitating the forms of metal vases. The neck is generally adorned with a wreath of leaf sprays, picked out in gold.

MILES STANDISH, the ancient Puritan warrior, who in the early days of New England commanded the army of offence and defence of seven men, and whose history is somewhat mythical and obscure, has just been commemorated by a monument on "Captain's Hill," Duxbury, Massachusetts.

MR. G. SCOTT is now engaged on the most important part of the Class Catalogue of the MSS. in the British Museum, namely, the arranging in chronological order of all the State papers and letters in the national collection, from the Conquest to the latest acquisitions. The first Calendar of the Rolls Series, that of Henry VIII., does not begin till 1509, but we have a large number of letters, &c., before that date. Mr. Scott has been able to supply several omissions, and correct some mistakes in the Rolls Calendar, excellent as that work is.

FEUDAL MANUALS OF ENGLISH HISTORY.—We believe that a very curious volume of early records of English history, collected and edited by Mr. T. Wright, will soon be completed. These documents are understood to be now first brought to notice and explained by Mr. Wright. They consist of rolls of vellum, of considerable length, on which are written what are the proper manuals of English history in feudal times, compiled for the use of feudal gentlemen, and no doubt intended to be used as authority on questions on English history brought into discussion in the feudal hall, or elsewhere in the feudal household. These documents have a special interest of their own, because they not only preserve facts of English history, but they give us the political feelings and opinions on English history of the classes for whom especially they were written, during the period to which they belong, namely, during the 12th, 13th, 14th, and earlier half of the 15th centuries. The earliest of them, and what may be considered the types, are written in French, which was everywhere the language of feudalism. A small number are written in Latin, no doubt for feudal families of the ecclesiastic order. Still fewer are English. These belong to the later period, when, as feudalism was dying out, the English language was finally taking the place of the French. There are other interesting points of difference among these records. As they were made more for domestic than for public use, they give the political feelings of different parts of the kingdom. The Latin ones, edited by Mr. Wright, seem to have been compiled for feudal families on the borders of Wales, and give curious illustrations of the international feelings between Welshmen and Englishmen, and of the events to which these gave rise. The only English manual is Anglo-Scottish—belongs to the international feelings between England and Scotland—and, as far as regards its interest, it will be only necessary to say that it belongs to the age of Wallace and Bruce. We believe that Mr. Wright's volume will contain six of these manuals, three in French, two in Latin, and one in English. It is only right to state that we shall owe their production in a useful form to the enlightened zeal of Mr. Joseph Mayer, of Liverpool, at whose expense this volume is printed.—*Athenæum*.